



South Carolina Department of Health
and Environmental Control

Media Advisory

S.C. DHEC, Region 8
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www.scdhec.gov/news

MEDIA ADVISORY/DAYBOOK ITEM

Nov. 8, 2005

DHEC's Region 8 Public Health sets flu clinic for Low Country residents

BEAUFORT – S.C. DHEC Region 8 Public Health will hold an appointment-only influenza vaccination clinic in Beaufort on Nov. 16.

Residents in high-risk priority groups, or anyone who wants to reduce their risk of flu, should call or e-mail for an appointment. Clinics are being conducted by appointment to reduce the likelihood of waiting.

- **The flu shot clinic for DHEC's Region 8 will be held:**

Nov. 16, 2005

9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Greene Street Gym, 1001 Hamar St., Beaufort (corner of Greene and Hamar streets)

- **To make an appointment for this clinic:**

Call (843) 525-7615 Nov. 9 after 9 a.m., or e-mail FLU4@dhec.sc.gov.

If you make an appointment via e-mail, include your full name and phone number and be sure you receive an appointment confirmation.

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NOTE TO EDITORS AND REPORTERS (you may include this information):

- The specific flu clinic appointment number for each of the Region 8 clinics is different from the regular phone numbers at the health clinics.
- Appointments will only be made from the specific flu appointment numbers and e-mail addresses, which are each unique to each clinic.

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- There is a \$15 charge for the vaccination, which Medicare and Medicaid will cover for those who are eligible. Cash or check payment will be accepted.
- Residents with Internet access also can find other local flu shot clinic information at the Carolina Medical Review's "Flu Clinic Finder" at <http://www.mrnc.org/fcf/> or at the American Lung Association Web site at www.lungusa.org. For more information you may visit <http://www.scdhec.gov/health/disease/immunization/links.htm>.
- CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices has emphasized the importance of vaccinating priority groups who are at increased risk for influenza complications, hospitalization, or who can transmit influenza to those at high risk.

CDC priority groups:

- People 65 and older
- Residents of long-term care facilities
- People ages 2 - 64 years with a chronic serious illness that has required them to be hospitalized or see a doctor regularly in the past year, especially illness of the heart or lungs
- Children from 6 - 23 months old
- Pregnant women
- Health care personnel who provide direct patient care
- Household contacts and out-of-home caregivers of children who are less than 6 months old

Appointments for flu shots from this clinic will be available for anyone who wants to reduce their risk of flu.

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For information about Region 8 clinics (Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper counties):

Mary Jane Richardson – (843) 525-7636

E-mail – richmj@dhec.sc.gov

or

Nick Davidson – (843) 525-4028

(843) 525-7621 (fax)

E-mail – davidsne@dhec.sc.gov

or

For additional information (statewide flu clinics):

Clair Boatwright - (803) 898-4661

E-mail – boatwrc@dhec.sc.gov